2014 Wrap

We constantly discuss that "schools are about people" and it is with sincerity that I think that whilst not always being easy, 2014 has been a fantastic year at Bilambil Public School. I have enjoyed as much watching the reaction of students as they read the School Magazine which Miss Wendt coordinated so well, as looking back on the year myself.

I believe that we as a school have continued to improve our practice this year and are committed to continuing our aim of inspiring 21st century learners at our school. As mentioned at the fabulous "World of Imagination" concerts, congratulations must go to the students, staff, parents, carers and volunteers at our school. To quote a Year 3 boy from our student survey: "we are all so different, but we figure out how to all get along!"

We hope you all enjoy a wonderful summer break with your families and we look forward to welcoming our new Kindergarten students to embark on a terrific 2015 together. Good luck to all of our year 6 students as you head in to the next phase of your schooling. We wish you every success for your future endeavours!

School Plans & Class Structures for 2015

Our projected enrolment numbers are rising slightly next year (approximately 300), but we currently anticipate that our school structure will be similar. This equates to stage based composite classes throughout the school, except for Kindergarten. Classes will be formed with the aim of matching students to peers that staff believe will work most effectively together, and with the teacher whose teaching style best matches the learning style of the children in it.

The composition of staff for next year will be similar but there will be some staff changes due to Mrs Julie Smith and Ms Janet Carruthers both retiring next week. Both have been long term staff members who have added enormous value to the lives of the young people in this school over many, many years. Amongst many things but including Julie's matriarch role on staff and Janet's outstandingly dry sense of humour already has staff mourning their departure.

More information on their replacements will be made available at the beginning of next year.

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Don't forget to purchase your BPS memento:
School Magazine - $5.00 each.
Available from the Admin Office

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Newsletter

Term 4 - Week 10, 9 December 2014

School Calendar Dates

As amazing as it is, the final school day for students is next Wednesday, 17 December 2014. Staff will then attend the next two days as School Development Days where we will focus on literacy and numeracy planning, anaphylaxis safety, i-pad implementation, learning support review, Mini-Lit training and positive behaviour for learning. This will place staff in a good position when they return on Tuesday, 27 January 2015.

Students will return on Wednesday, 28 January 2015 where they will start the year in their 2014 classes whilst we establish our final numbers for the year.

Our new Kindergarten students will then commence their schooling on Monday, 2 February 2015.

Student Reports

Student's Semester 2 Reports will go home with each child on Thursday, 11 December 2014. A reminder that our school system reports differently to what we grew up with or commonly see on American movies or TV shows. If your child has met the expectations of the learning outcomes related to their age, they will get a "Sound" mark, which is where they are expected to be at. If they are working ahead of or are yet to reach the expectations, their mark will vary accordingly.

A reminder to please see your child's teacher if you would like any clarification on either comments or ratings that your child receives.

Seriously

We have had several reports of our younger children trying to stay cool in the recent hot weather by not wearing any underwear to school; well that's one theory anyway. We are asking parents to please help us avoid any more embarrassing situations by please checking their child is fully dressed for school each morning.

Thank you!
UP & COMING SCHOOL EVENTS

TERM 4 WEEK 10
- Wednesday 10th December: Gold Medal Day
- Thursday 11th December: Presentation Day, Reports Home
- Friday 12th December: Yr 6 Farewell

TERM 4 WEEK 11
- Monday 15th December: NO School Canteen, Class Party Day
- Tuesday 16th December: NO School Canteen, NO Student Banking
- Wednesday 17th December: NO School Canteen, Yr 6 Tunnel/Shirt, Last Day for students in 2014
- Thursday 18th December: School Development Day
- Friday 19th December: School Development Day

Happy Holidays enjoy your break and look forward to seeing you back in the New Year

2015 Calendar

TERM 1 WEEK 1
- Monday 26th January: Public Holiday
- Tuesday 27th January: School Development Day
- Wednesday 28th January: School resumes for Students Yr 1 - 6, 2015 Kindy Best start interviews
- Thursday 29th January: 2015 Kindy Best start interviews
- Friday 30th January: 2015 Kindy Best start interviews

TERM 1 WEEK 2
- Monday 2nd February: Kindergarten students commence, Canteen re-opens for 2015
- Tuesday 3rd February: School Newsletter

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

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<tr>
<th>Term 4 Week 9</th>
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<td>KB</td>
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<td>Ryan J</td>
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<td>Band/Guitar</td>
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<td>RFF/LAT</td>
<td>Isabella H</td>
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Thank You Morning Tea
School staff and students really appreciate the large contribution many of our parents and community members make as volunteers to our school. A reminder that we’d like to show our thanks to all these people by putting on a “Thank You Morning Tea”.

It will be on Thursday 11 December 2014 at 11:00am. This will be directly after the Annual Presentation Day assembly. We hope that you can join us then to celebrate all of our terrific volunteers.

Canteen closes Friday
Our school canteen will close for annual stocktaking and cleaning after this Friday, 12 December 2014. Thank you to Brook and all of our volunteers who have worked diligently to have our canteen open every day of the year and to also offer our Breakfast Club, which has been very popular.

This year’s updated menu has been well received and Brook is already excited about what she might be adding in 2015. The canteen will reopen on Monday 2nd February, 2015.
Gold Day Ceremony

The presentation of Gold Day medals this week is a celebration for the 38% of students who achieved this level. They will get a just reward but it is also important to realise that the other 62% of our students have predominantly also had a wonderful year at school. These students will also have a treat between recess and lunch with a movie being played for each of the stages.

P&C Disco

Thank you to the P&C who held the very successful school disco recently. The “B” theme was well received and it was lovely to see so many parents join their children in dancing to a few of the songs.

Reading Recovery Graduate

Congratulations to Mrs Stokes for graduating from Reading Recovery training last week. She has done a wonderful job this year supporting those students in Year 1 who are struggling to make the connections with their reading. She will continue this valuable role next year and we are excited about pursuing some options to expand some of this learning into wider school practice.

Well done Mrs Stokes!
MUSIC FOR 2015

Students in years 3-6 will once again be given the opportunity to learn a band instrument or guitar through Bilambil’s instrumental program.

Please start talking to your child about this opportunity to join us. Students in years 2-5 will receive a note asking for instrument choices etc in preparation for term 1 next year.

Be advised that hire fees and lessons fees will apply for band instruments, students will need their own guitar if looking at this option.

Jesse Edwards

Oxfam Donation Appeal

Thank you to all our family and community members and in particular the staff at Bilambil Public School who have all given so generously to this appeal. We raised an amazing $290 in donations and I think we can all be proud to be part of a community that gives so generously to those less fortunate – and especially at this time of year.

We have purchased clean water for a whole school in South Africa which means not only will the students be free from disease but they will also have water to grow food crops to support their families and those in their community.

In addition to the schools water this is where our donated funds have gone:

A piglet for a family in Vietnam, 2 x chickens to families in South Africa, a goat to a family in Mozambique, a duck to a family in Bangladesh, 3 x lots of veg seeds to Sri Lanka families, clean water for a Papua New Guinea family and 2 x cattle manure for poor female farmers in Sri Lanka to grow veg.

If you would like to see and read firsthand how this helps these families Google www.oxfamunwrapped.com.au

Thank you again.

ONLINE UNIFORM SHOP 24/7
Bilambil Primary School P&C Association

www.bilambilpc.org

Uniform Shop Hours
Monday 8.30am - 9.00am
Friday 8.30am - 9.00am
Take 3 for the Sea

1/2B have devised a new campaign in class to help our sea creatures and ensure our beaches are beautiful places to visit. Their program is called, "Take 3 for the Sea". It challenges all of us to take 3 pieces of rubbish away from the beach every time we visit it. They worked out that if every person in our school went to the beach once and picked up 3 bits of rubbish, we would remove over 900 bits of rubbish from the beaches. Sounds like a pretty worthwhile challenge because as they wrote in their letters to me, "if we don't look after the environment, who will?" How about we all take 3 for the Sea this summer!

Empathy

Empathy is about imagining how somebody else’s feels. It’s like putting yourself in someone else’s shoes!

Empathy can change the world if you believe in it. Empathy is a beautiful thing because it helps you to understand how other people feel.

Can you imagine how the world would be without empathy?

By Natalie M 3/4S

Drama all in the family

For Evander M of 1/2H, his Mum Charlotte and Dad Peter drama has become a family affair. In recent weeks Evander took to the stage in a local production, "Camp Elsewhere". The screenplay was written by both Charlotte and Peter with Peter directing the show.

Congratulations to Evander and everyone involved in the production by the Spotlight Youth Threatre Group.

Bilambil PS helping others!

Thanks to the organisation and hard work of Mrs Carruthers, Bilambil has been able to package up four boxes of home readers and donate them to BOOKS4PNGKIDS.

The books will be forwarded to a school in PNG were children less fortunate then us will enjoy hours of reading stories and learning.
CERTAINLY SUMS UP OUR FINAL YEAR AT BPS 2014 FUN FUN FUN!

Excursion
Debating
Dancing
Swimming
Leadership
Discos

Thanks
Bilambil
CALLING FOR NEW BAND AND GUITAR MEMBERS!

If your child is in stage 2 or 3 and would like to learn a musical instrument and join our band or guitar group, now is the time! It will cost around $40 per term for instrument hire for band instruments and guitar group need to own their own guitar. Lessons are $12.50 for a half hour group lesson during class time. Band also has rehearsals Monday mornings at 8.00am for the more advanced players. Please complete the following and return to me ASAP if interested and I’ll confirm details once everything is finalised.

Jesse Edwards
Band Teacher

BAND AND GUITAR INTEREST FOR 2015

Student’s name: ___________________________ Class: ____________

Chosen instrument (Please ticket one)

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<th>INSTRUMENT</th>
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